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Docket No.: SON-2860
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Morihiro Murata et al

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: DISC-TYPE RECORDING AND/OR
REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND
METHOD OF JUDGING DISC-SHAPED
RECORDING MEDIUM OF DISC-TYPE
RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING
APPARATUS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

A LETTER OF CLARIFICATION OF ARTICLE 19 AMENDMENTS

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

To assist the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in interpreting the English Translation of the Article 19 Amendments, the following represents the Article 19 Amendments as it applies to the English language specification and as the English language Translation of the Article 19 Amendments applies to the Japanese language specification.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 7-11 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 1-6 as shown below. A complete listing of all pending claims is presented below.

1. (Currently Amended) A disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus configured to load a disc-shaped recording medium at a recording/reproducing position by pulling a tray in on which the disc-shaped recording medium is mounted, and to perform a recording and/or a reproducing with a head, characterized by including:

on a pull-in path of the tray, tray detection means for detecting a predetermined portion of the tray; and disc detection means for detecting the disc-shaped recording medium,

wherein the tray detection means includes a target section of detection which is provided, along the pull-in direction of the tray, at a predetermined position and the disc detection means directly detects the disc-shaped recording medium, and a combination of a detection by means of the disc detection means and a detection by means of the tray detection means allows to detect whether or not the disc-shaped recording medium is properly mounted on the tray, or of a size of the disc-shaped recording medium.

2. (Currently Amended) The disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus according to claim 1 characterized by including:

the tray detection means and the disc detection means on a peripheral edge of an opening, for leading the tray in has, at a front panel.

3. (Currently Amended) The disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus according to claim 2 characterized in that:

the tray detection means includes a light emitter and a light detector, and also includes a target section of detection including a reflective or a non-reflective portion at the tray side; and a detection operation is carried out in which the light detector detects whether or not a light emitted from the light emitter is reflected at the target section of detection.

4. (Currently Amended) The disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus according to claim 2 characterized in that:

the disc detection means includes the light emitter and the light detector; and the light detector is permitted to carry out the detection operation by allowing the light emitted from the light emitter to be reflected from the disc-shaped recording medium.

5. (Currently Amended) The disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus according to claim 7 characterized in that:

a reflective foil is attached, along the pull-in direction of the tray, on a back surface opposite to a mounting surface for mounting the disc-shaped recording medium; a lack portion is formed where the reflection foil is absent corresponding to a size of the disc-shaped recording medium; and it is judged such that the disc-shaped recording medium is properly mounted if the tray detection means detects the lack portion and if the disc detection means detects the disc-shaped recording medium; while in cases other than the above, it is judged such that the disc-shaped recording medium is not properly mounted.

6. (Currently Amended) The disc-type recording and/or reproducing apparatus according to claim 7 characterized in that:

the disc detection means are provided in a pair to be positioned at both sides of the moving path of the center of the disc-shaped recording medium; a reflective foil is attached, along the pull-in direction of the tray, on a back surface opposite to the tray's mounting surface for mounting the disc-shaped recording medium; a lack portion is formed where the reflective foil is absent corresponding to a size of the disc-shaped recording medium; and it is judged such that the disc-shaped recording medium is properly mounted if the tray detection means detects the lack portion and if the disc detection means detects the disc-shaped recording medium, while in cases other than the above, it is judged such that the disc-shaped recording medium is not properly mounted.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

REMARKS

This Letter essentially restates the Article 19 Amendments as it would apply to the English language specification. The Article 19 Amendments have been applied to and original claims 1 and 11. Accordingly, claims 1-6 are presented for examination at this time.

Dated: April 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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